

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - APRIL 2023

AREA	CURRENT MONTH - APRIL 2023				PREVIOUS MONTH - MARCH 2023				YEAR AGO - APRIL 2022			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			Number	Rate			Number	Rate			Number	Rate
U.S. (000 - not seasonally adjusted)	166,221	161,075	5,146	3.1	166,783	160,741	6,043	3.6	163,449	157,991	5,458	3.3
MISSOURI (not seasonally adjusted)	3,132,334	3,056,512	75,822	2.4	3,105,763	3,021,782	83,981	2.7	3,051,721	2,989,170	62,551	2.0
<u>METROPOLITAN AREAS</u>												
CAPE GIRARDEAU MSA	48,635	47,530	1,105	2.3	48,332	47,105	1,227	2.5	47,416	46,505	911	1.9
CAPE GIRARDEAU MSA (MO PT)	46,847	45,834	1,013	2.2	46,543	45,414	1,129	2.4	45,617	44,815	802	1.8
Bollinger	5,411	5,290	121	2.2	5,339	5,206	133	2.5	5,306	5,202	104	2.0
Cape Girardeau	41,436	40,544	892	2.2	41,204	40,208	996	2.4	40,311	39,613	698	1.7
COLUMBIA MSA (Boone Co.)	102,935	100,940	1,995	1.9	102,319	100,102	2,217	2.2	99,596	98,079	1,517	1.5
JEFFERSON CITY MSA	77,637	76,104	1,533	2.0	76,769	75,042	1,727	2.2	74,976	73,760	1,216	1.6
Callaway	22,362	21,890	472	2.1	22,136	21,589	547	2.5	21,602	21,210	392	1.8
Cole	40,634	39,851	783	1.9	40,263	39,400	863	2.1	39,125	38,538	587	1.5
Moniteau	7,330	7,187	143	2.0	7,171	7,013	158	2.2	7,154	7,021	133	1.9
Osage	7,311	7,176	135	1.8	7,199	7,040	159	2.2	7,095	6,991	104	1.5
JOPLIN MSA	85,947	83,883	2,064	2.4	85,162	82,953	2,209	2.6	83,330	81,736	1,594	1.9
Jasper	58,339	56,926	1,413	2.4	57,870	56,354	1,516	2.6	56,501	55,423	1,078	1.9
Newton	27,608	26,957	651	2.4	27,292	26,599	693	2.5	26,829	26,313	516	1.9
KANSAS CITY MSA	1,180,252	1,149,548	30,704	2.6	1,171,563	1,138,461	33,102	2.8	1,141,903	1,117,815	24,088	2.1
KANSAS CITY MSA (MO PT)	684,330	667,313	17,017	2.5	679,180	660,709	18,471	2.7	657,408	642,997	14,411	2.2
Bates	7,880	7,680	200	2.5	7,756	7,528	228	2.9	7,637	7,476	161	2.1
Caldwell	4,375	4,270	105	2.4	4,293	4,177	116	2.7	4,242	4,164	78	1.8
Cass	56,700	55,394	1,306	2.3	56,261	54,794	1,467	2.6	54,500	53,438	1,062	1.9
Clay	142,790	139,760	3,030	2.1	141,718	138,388	3,330	2.3	137,266	134,612	2,654	1.9
Clinton	10,921	10,674	247	2.3	10,786	10,503	283	2.6	10,556	10,336	220	2.1
Jackson	371,407	361,178	10,229	2.8	368,952	358,009	10,943	3.0	356,295	347,724	8,571	2.4
Lafayette	17,251	16,867	384	2.2	17,015	16,576	439	2.6	16,699	16,349	350	2.1
Platte	61,865	60,607	1,258	2.0	61,352	59,984	1,368	2.2	59,464	58,390	1,074	1.8
Ray	11,141	10,883	258	2.3	11,047	10,750	297	2.7	10,749	10,508	241	2.2
ST. JOSEPH MSA	60,327	58,953	1,374	2.3	60,148	58,557	1,591	2.6	59,543	58,433	1,110	1.9
ST. JOSEPH MSA (MO PT)	56,325	55,059	1,266	2.2	56,123	54,648	1,475	2.6	55,566	54,528	1,038	1.9
Andrew	9,530	9,343	187	2.0	9,474	9,259	215	2.3	9,414	9,268	146	1.6
Buchanan	42,713	41,719	994	2.3	42,612	41,464	1,148	2.7	42,087	41,274	813	1.9
Dekalb	4,082	3,997	85	2.1	4,037	3,925	112	2.8	4,065	3,986	79	1.9
ST. LOUIS MSA	1,480,783	1,441,108	39,675	2.7	1,473,318	1,431,875	41,443	2.8	1,454,313	1,418,770	35,543	2.4
ST. LOUIS MSA (MO PT)	1,146,380	1,119,027	27,353	2.4	1,140,662	1,111,249	29,413	2.6	1,119,816	1,096,821	22,995	2.1
Franklin	54,014	52,788	1,226	2.3	53,721	52,352	1,369	2.5	52,785	51,793	992	1.9
Jefferson	120,409	117,658	2,751	2.3	119,988	116,981	3,007	2.5	117,572	115,269	2,303	2.0
Lincoln	29,836	29,129	707	2.4	29,646	28,842	804	2.7	29,217	28,608	609	2.1
St. Charles	233,999	229,226	4,773	2.0	232,562	227,403	5,159	2.2	228,633	224,748	3,885	1.7
St. Louis Co.	537,296	524,345	12,951	2.4	534,726	520,941	13,785	2.6	524,715	513,825	10,890	2.1
Warren	19,126	18,695	431	2.3	18,996	18,521	475	2.5	18,727	18,357	370	2.0
St. Louis City	151,700	147,186	4,514	3.0	151,023	146,209	4,814	3.2	148,167	144,221	3,946	2.7
SPRINGFIELD MSA	248,299	243,077	5,222	2.1	246,651	240,848	5,803	2.4	241,322	237,295	4,027	1.7
Christian	48,600	47,635	965	2.0	48,407	47,276	1,131	2.3	47,216	46,466	750	1.6
Dallas	7,397	7,215	182	2.5	7,287	7,093	194	2.7	7,248	7,086	162	2.2
Greene	159,115	155,795	3,320	2.1	158,120	154,479	3,641	2.3	154,484	151,945	2,539	1.6
Polk	15,108	14,741	367	2.4	14,945	14,559	386	2.6	14,727	14,455	272	1.8
Webster	18,079	17,691	388	2.1	17,892	17,441	451	2.5	17,647	17,343	304	1.7
FAYETTEVILLE MSA (MO PT - McDonald Co.)	11,528	11,273	255	2.2	11,431	11,160	271	2.4	10,967	10,734	233	2.1

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - APRIL 2023

AREA	CURRENT MONTH - APRIL 2023				PREVIOUS MONTH - MARCH 2023				YEAR AGO - APRIL 2022			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			Number	Rate			Number	Rate			Number	Rate
<u>MICROPOLITAN AREAS</u>												
BRANSON	39,641	38,287	1,354	3.4	38,622	36,934	1,688	4.4	38,495	37,365	1,130	2.9
Stone	13,578	13,118	460	3.4	13,227	12,670	557	4.2	13,189	12,812	377	2.9
Taney	26,063	25,169	894	3.4	25,395	24,264	1,131	4.5	25,306	24,553	753	3.0
FARMINGTON (St. Francois Co.)	25,807	25,000	807	3.1	25,579	24,671	908	3.5	25,537	24,832	705	2.8
FT. LEONARD WOOD (Pulaski Co.)	14,977	14,554	423	2.8	14,888	14,419	469	3.2	14,454	14,121	333	2.3
HANNIBAL	19,331	18,855	476	2.5	18,963	18,426	537	2.8	19,219	18,867	352	1.8
Marion	13,873	13,521	352	2.5	13,623	13,228	395	2.9	13,775	13,520	255	1.9
Ralls	5,458	5,334	124	2.3	5,340	5,198	142	2.7	5,444	5,347	97	1.8
KENNETT (Dunklin Co.)	11,176	10,701	475	4.3	10,919	10,402	517	4.7	11,186	10,795	391	3.5
KIRKSVILLE	11,824	11,519	305	2.6	11,609	11,209	400	3.4	11,952	11,691	261	2.2
Adair	9,989	9,730	259	2.6	9,825	9,491	334	3.4	10,085	9,864	221	2.2
Schuyler	1,835	1,789	46	2.5	1,784	1,718	66	3.7	1,867	1,827	40	2.1
LEBANON (Laclede Co.)	17,013	16,603	410	2.4	16,857	16,401	456	2.7	16,504	16,172	332	2.0
MARSHALL (Saline Co.)	10,648	10,408	240	2.3	10,464	10,194	270	2.6	10,482	10,306	176	1.7
MARYVILLE (Nodaway Co.)	11,544	11,319	225	1.9	11,202	10,928	274	2.4	11,117	10,945	172	1.5
MEXICO (Audrain Co.)	9,818	9,549	269	2.7	9,725	9,426	299	3.1	10,052	9,751	301	3.0
MOBERLY (Randolph Co.)	10,545	10,278	267	2.5	10,490	10,186	304	2.9	10,253	10,046	207	2.0
POPLAR BLUFF (Butler Co.)	17,670	17,078	592	3.4	17,961	17,005	956	5.3	17,816	17,409	407	2.3
ROLLA (Phelps Co.)	20,538	20,048	490	2.4	20,415	19,862	553	2.7	19,938	19,564	374	1.9
SEDALIA (Pettis Co.)	20,347	19,886	461	2.3	20,061	19,533	528	2.6	20,081	19,687	394	2.0
SIKESTON (Scott Co.)	20,198	19,725	473	2.3	19,925	19,398	527	2.6	19,935	19,548	387	1.9
WARRENSBURG (Johnson Co.)	23,552	22,962	590	2.5	23,131	22,449	682	2.9	23,061	22,595	466	2.0
WEST PLAINS (Howell Co.)	16,290	15,809	481	3.0	16,210	15,665	545	3.4	15,904	15,540	364	2.3
FT. MADISON-KEOKUK IA-MO (MO PT - Clark Co.)	3,015	2,924	91	3.0	2,945	2,840	105	3.6	3,049	2,958	91	3.0
QUINCY IL-MO (MO PT - Lewis Co.)	4,837	4,722	115	2.4	4,731	4,602	129	2.7	4,835	4,748	87	1.8
<u>COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS (CSAs)</u>												
Cape Girardeau-Sikeston CSA ¹	68,833	67,255	1,578	2.3	68,257	66,503	1,754	2.6	67,351	66,053	1,298	1.9
Columbia-Moberly-Mexico CSA ²	123,298	120,767	2,531	2.1	122,534	119,714	2,820	2.3	119,901	117,876	2,025	1.7
Joplin-Miami CSA ³	101,270	98,897	2,373	2.3	100,400	97,768	2,632	2.6	98,360	96,425	1,935	2.0
Kansas City-Overland Park-KC KS CSA ⁴	1,354,720	1,319,689	35,031	2.6	1,345,611	1,307,512	38,099	2.8	1,313,003	1,285,587	27,416	2.1
St. Louis-St. Charles-Farmington CSA ⁵	1,523,039	1,481,862	41,177	2.7	1,515,308	1,472,237	43,071	2.8	1,496,409	1,459,398	37,011	2.5
Springfield-Branson CSA ⁶	287,940	281,364	6,576	2.3	285,273	277,782	7,491	2.6	279,817	274,660	5,157	1.8
<u>SINGLE COUNTY LMAs</u>												
Atchison	2,592	2,536	56	2.2	2,505	2,448	57	2.3	2,643	2,598	45	1.7
Barry	14,352	13,980	372	2.6	14,074	13,669	405	2.9	14,508	14,205	303	2.1
Barton	5,328	5,211	117	2.2	5,222	5,071	151	2.9	5,241	5,145	96	1.8
Benton	7,417	7,165	252	3.4	7,266	6,982	284	3.9	7,267	7,060	207	2.8
Camden	19,176	18,593	583	3.0	18,533	17,869	664	3.6	18,767	18,310	457	2.4
Carroll	4,505	4,399	106	2.4	4,343	4,228	115	2.6	4,486	4,385	101	2.3
Carter	2,447	2,364	83	3.4	2,456	2,335	121	4.9	2,490	2,416	74	3.0
Cedar	5,865	5,706	159	2.7	5,736	5,548	188	3.3	5,723	5,615	108	1.9
Chariton	3,791	3,715	76	2.0	3,737	3,647	90	2.4	3,703	3,642	61	1.6
Cooper	7,256	7,091	165	2.3	7,145	6,957	188	2.6	7,134	7,010	124	1.7
Crawford	10,881	10,593	288	2.6	10,794	10,477	317	2.9	10,730	10,475	255	2.4
Dade	3,479	3,391	88	2.5	3,383	3,293	90	2.7	3,530	3,470	60	1.7

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - APRIL 2023

AREA	CURRENT MONTH - APRIL 2023				PREVIOUS MONTH - MARCH 2023				YEAR AGO - APRIL 2022			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			Number	Rate			Number	Rate			Number	Rate
Daviess	4,141	4,055	86	2.1	3,991	3,895	96	2.4	4,074	3,998	76	1.9
Dent	6,172	5,994	178	2.9	6,124	5,933	191	3.1	6,141	5,979	162	2.6
Douglas	5,322	5,184	138	2.6	5,332	5,104	228	4.3	5,141	5,028	113	2.2
Gasconade	7,722	7,563	159	2.1	7,596	7,418	178	2.3	7,625	7,492	133	1.7
Gentry	3,238	3,176	62	1.9	3,132	3,053	79	2.5	3,264	3,215	49	1.5
Grundy	4,117	4,026	91	2.2	4,028	3,913	115	2.9	4,159	4,072	87	2.1
Harrison	3,778	3,685	93	2.5	3,670	3,562	108	2.9	3,788	3,725	63	1.7
Henry	10,576	10,332	244	2.3	10,459	10,188	271	2.6	10,230	10,014	216	2.1
Hickory	4,179	4,065	114	2.7	3,957	3,825	132	3.3	4,115	4,030	85	2.1
Holt	2,515	2,469	46	1.8	2,422	2,366	56	2.3	2,507	2,473	34	1.4
Howard	4,800	4,694	106	2.2	4,755	4,629	126	2.6	4,804	4,713	91	1.9
Iron	3,494	3,354	140	4.0	3,455	3,300	155	4.5	3,471	3,349	122	3.5
Knox	1,746	1,705	41	2.3	1,682	1,636	46	2.7	1,740	1,709	31	1.8
Lawrence	17,557	17,149	408	2.3	17,266	16,800	466	2.7	17,303	16,979	324	1.9
Linn	5,196	5,056	140	2.7	5,149	4,970	179	3.5	5,048	4,937	111	2.2
Livingston	7,246	7,109	137	1.9	7,078	6,934	144	2.0	7,244	7,126	118	1.6
Macon	7,154	6,978	176	2.5	7,070	6,833	237	3.4	7,268	7,124	144	2.0
Madison	5,455	5,302	153	2.8	5,391	5,220	171	3.2	5,365	5,241	124	2.3
Maries	3,920	3,826	94	2.4	3,872	3,763	109	2.8	3,894	3,816	78	2.0
Mercer	1,759	1,724	35	2.0	1,667	1,624	43	2.6	1,799	1,765	34	1.9
Miller	13,222	12,900	322	2.4	12,876	12,491	385	3.0	12,726	12,470	256	2.0
Mississippi	5,195	5,033	162	3.1	5,088	4,913	175	3.4	5,254	5,112	142	2.7
Monroe	3,864	3,765	99	2.6	3,754	3,632	122	3.2	3,814	3,730	84	2.2
Montgomery	5,969	5,831	138	2.3	5,833	5,668	165	2.8	5,880	5,762	118	2.0
Morgan	8,569	8,319	250	2.9	8,354	8,063	291	3.5	8,291	8,102	189	2.3
New Madrid	8,295	8,069	226	2.7	8,092	7,837	255	3.2	8,255	8,044	211	2.6
Oregon	3,881	3,772	109	2.8	3,817	3,695	122	3.2	3,768	3,680	88	2.3
Ozark	3,477	3,363	114	3.3	3,419	3,258	161	4.7	3,498	3,403	95	2.7
Pemiscot	5,781	5,582	199	3.4	5,696	5,475	221	3.9	5,834	5,645	189	3.2
Perry	9,521	9,337	184	1.9	9,397	9,183	214	2.3	9,612	9,454	158	1.6
Pike	7,366	7,173	193	2.6	7,284	7,076	208	2.9	7,323	7,162	161	2.2
Putnam	2,176	2,124	52	2.4	2,093	2,033	60	2.9	2,243	2,198	45	2.0
Reynolds	2,827	2,748	79	2.8	2,780	2,688	92	3.3	2,883	2,818	65	2.3
Ripley	5,138	4,971	167	3.3	5,116	4,894	222	4.3	5,005	4,885	120	2.4
St. Clair	3,942	3,810	132	3.3	3,817	3,696	121	3.2	3,867	3,782	85	2.2
Ste. Genevieve	9,433	9,224	209	2.2	9,284	9,060	224	2.4	9,274	9,108	166	1.8
Scotland	2,271	2,229	42	1.8	2,223	2,174	49	2.2	2,296	2,248	48	2.1
Shannon	3,354	3,225	129	3.8	3,249	3,093	156	4.8	3,315	3,220	95	2.9
Shelby	3,066	3,016	50	1.6	2,985	2,902	83	2.8	3,010	2,959	51	1.7
Stoddard	13,364	12,973	391	2.9	13,137	12,669	468	3.6	13,304	13,005	299	2.2
Sullivan	2,613	2,545	68	2.6	2,551	2,471	80	3.1	2,570	2,507	63	2.5
Texas	9,339	9,072	267	2.9	9,155	8,865	290	3.2	9,083	8,874	209	2.3
Vernon	9,428	9,175	253	2.7	9,221	8,940	281	3.0	9,137	8,962	175	1.9
Washington	10,211	9,914	297	2.9	10,117	9,761	356	3.5	10,152	9,880	272	2.7
Wayne	4,691	4,501	190	4.1	4,684	4,460	224	4.8	4,725	4,588	137	2.9
Worth	1,191	1,165	26	2.2	1,128	1,101	27	2.4	1,189	1,173	16	1.3
Wright	7,982	7,756	226	2.8	7,788	7,521	267	3.4	7,747	7,582	165	2.1

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - APRIL 2023

AREA	CURRENT MONTH - APRIL 2023				PREVIOUS MONTH - MARCH 2023				YEAR AGO - APRIL 2022			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			Number	Rate			Number	Rate			Number	Rate

PLACES OF 20,000 OR MORE

Arnold	11,769	11,504	265	2.3	11,727	11,438	289	2.5	11,445	11,271	174	1.5
Ballwin	17,251	16,904	347	2.0	17,169	16,794	375	2.2	16,833	16,565	268	1.6
Belton	11,814	11,526	288	2.4	11,709	11,401	308	2.6	11,370	11,119	251	2.2
Blue Springs	31,983	31,289	694	2.2	31,798	31,014	784	2.5	30,708	30,123	585	1.9
Cape Girardeau	21,198	20,733	465	2.2	21,093	20,561	532	2.5	20,644	20,257	387	1.9
Chesterfield	25,445	24,930	515	2.0	25,314	24,768	546	2.2	24,847	24,430	417	1.7
Columbia	70,299	68,859	1,440	2.0	69,858	68,287	1,571	2.2	67,967	66,907	1,060	1.6
Ferguson	9,717	9,403	314	3.2	9,682	9,342	340	3.5	9,464	9,215	249	2.6
Florissant	28,149	27,356	793	2.8	27,973	27,178	795	2.8	27,502	26,807	695	2.5
Gladstone	15,141	14,792	349	2.3	15,030	14,647	383	2.5	14,550	14,247	303	2.1
Grandview	13,110	12,765	345	2.6	13,073	12,653	420	3.2	12,652	12,290	362	2.9
Hazelwood	13,831	13,448	383	2.8	13,752	13,360	392	2.9	13,561	13,178	383	2.8
Independence	58,144	56,440	1,704	2.9	57,795	55,945	1,850	3.2	55,724	54,338	1,386	2.5
Jefferson City	21,250	20,789	461	2.2	21,040	20,554	486	2.3	20,431	20,105	326	1.6
Joplin	25,197	24,563	634	2.5	24,982	24,305	677	2.7	24,435	23,923	512	2.1
Kansas City	267,526	260,345	7,181	2.7	265,420	257,940	7,480	2.8	257,060	250,699	6,361	2.5
Kirkwood	16,346	16,021	325	2.0	16,275	15,917	358	2.2	15,922	15,699	223	1.4
Lee's Summit	58,436	57,128	1,308	2.2	57,995	56,625	1,370	2.4	55,877	55,003	874	1.6
Liberty	17,211	16,846	365	2.1	17,084	16,681	403	2.4	16,537	16,226	311	1.9
Maryland Heights	16,376	15,992	384	2.3	16,268	15,888	380	2.3	15,991	15,671	320	2.0
Nixa	12,815	12,551	264	2.1	12,766	12,456	310	2.4	12,434	12,243	191	1.5
O'Fallon	51,606	50,586	1,020	2.0	51,299	50,184	1,115	2.2	50,451	49,598	853	1.7
Ozark	11,503	11,296	207	1.8	11,447	11,211	236	2.1	11,197	11,019	178	1.6
Raymore	12,274	11,985	289	2.4	12,170	11,855	315	2.6	11,760	11,562	198	1.7
Raytown	15,160	14,677	483	3.2	15,054	14,549	505	3.4	14,534	14,131	403	2.8
Rolla	8,905	8,655	250	2.8	8,853	8,575	278	3.1	8,622	8,446	176	2.0
St. Charles	40,711	39,756	955	2.3	40,467	39,440	1,027	2.5	39,678	38,979	699	1.8
St. Joseph	35,850	34,979	871	2.4	35,770	34,765	1,005	2.8	35,309	34,606	703	2.0
St. Peters	35,349	34,650	699	2.0	35,132	34,374	758	2.2	34,589	33,973	616	1.8
Sedalia	10,157	9,899	258	2.5	10,007	9,724	283	2.8	10,009	9,800	209	2.1
Springfield	90,641	88,614	2,027	2.2	90,098	87,866	2,232	2.5	87,918	86,424	1,494	1.7
University City	18,783	18,298	485	2.6	18,685	18,179	506	2.7	18,319	17,931	388	2.1
Warrensburg	9,448	9,217	231	2.4	9,259	9,011	248	2.7	9,265	9,070	195	2.1
Webster Groves	12,927	12,691	236	1.8	12,881	12,609	272	2.1	12,606	12,437	169	1.3
Wentzville	23,844	23,352	492	2.1	23,674	23,166	508	2.1	23,303	22,896	407	1.7
Wildwood	19,356	18,995	361	1.9	19,246	18,872	374	1.9	18,908	18,614	294	1.6

1 The Cape Girardeau-Sikeston CSA consists of the Cape Girardeau MSA plus the Sikeston MicroPolitan Area

2 The Columbia-Moberly-Mexico CSA consists of the Columbia MSA plus the Moberly and Mexico Microplitan Areas

3 The Joplin-Miami CSA consists of the Joplin MSA plus the Miami OK Micropolitan Area

4 The Kansas City-Overland Park-Kansas City CSA consists of the Kansas City MSA plus the St. Joseph (MO) and Lawrence (KS) MSAs plus the Warrensburg (MO), Atison (KS) and Ottawa (KS) Micropolitan Areas

5 The St. Louis-St. Charles-Farmington CSA consists of the St. Louis MSA plus the Farmington (MO) and Centralia (IL) Micropolitan Areas

6 The Springfield-Branson CSA consists of the Sprengfield MSA plus the Branson Micropolitan Area

PRODUCED BY MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/MERIC IN COOPERATION WITH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS